# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# AGRICULTURE
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:197
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2007
GROUNDNUT CULTIVATION
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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

(a) the total area covered under groundnut cultivation in the country, State-wise in the last three years;

(b) the extent of production recorded during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether there has been steep decline in the production of groundnut;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to promote the production of groundnut and provide remunerative prices to the farmers?

## Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.197 DUE FOR REPLY ON 12TH MARCH, 2007.

(a) & (b): The State-wise and all-India area covered and extent of production of groundnut during the years 2003-04 to 2006-07 are given in the Annexure.

(c) & (d): The groundnut production declined from 81.27 lakh tonnes during 2003- 04 to 67.74 lakh tonnes during 2004-05. During 2005-06 it increased to 79.93 lakh tonnes. It is estimated to have again declined to 44.11 lakh tonnes during 2006-07 as per 2nd advance estimates released on 05.02.2007. The sharp decline in production during 2006-07 was due to decline in area from 67.36 lakh hectares to 55.76 lakh hectares. The other reasons for low production of groundnut are aberrant weather conditions during this period and low productivity of groundnut due to their cultivation largely under rainfed conditions, no major breakthrough in high yielding varieties and low seed replacement rate.

(e): A Centrally Sponsored Integrated scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize is under implementation with effect from 01.04.2004 for increasing production and productivity of groundnut in 14 States of the Country. Under the scheme financial assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seeds, production of foundation seeds, distribution of seed minikits, infrastructure development, block demonstrations on improved technology, integrated pest management, weedicides, distribution of sprinkler sets, farmers training for increasing production and productivity of groundnut and other oilseeds.

For protecting the interest of farmers and for encouraging production of groundnut by the farmers, the Government announces minimum support prices (MSP) for groundnut before the sowing season begins and authorizes the nodal agencies to undertake price support operations in the event of market prices falling below the MSP level.